

## REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated March 23, 2007 in which the Examiner objected to the drawings, rejected claims 8 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs and rejected claims 6-8 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

As indicated above, claim 8 has been amended to delete the recitation "and substantially covering". Although Applicant believes that support is found in the specification on page 1, line 15 in the prior art publication U.S. Patent No. 6,056,030, Applicant has deleted this phrase from the claim. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the objection to the drawings and withdraws the rejection to claims 8 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs.

As indicated above, claim 6 has been amended in order to make explicit what is implicit in the claim. The amendment is unrelated to a statutory requirement for patentability. Furthermore, the amendment to claim 8 broadens the claim, as well as being amended for stylistic reasons.

Claim 6 claims the method for clamping a knife on a chipper disk having a rotation axis. The method comprises the steps of forcing the knife in an inclined projecting position out from the disc and against a wear plate fastened on the knife side of the disk, with a force substantially parallel to the rotation axis of the disc and exerting the force parallel to the rotation axis of the disc outward from the disc and directed to the knife through a clamp having a contact with the wear plate. The contact with the wear plate is barred in the projecting direction of the knife.

Through the method of the claimed invention a) forcing a knife against a wear plate, b) exerting the force parallel to the rotation axis of the disc outward from the

disc and c) having a clamp contact with the wear plate, as claimed in claim 6, the claimed invention provides a method of clamping a knife on a chipper disc in which no supporting surface is needed on the disc and the knife clamp can be used with attaching methods other than bolts. The prior art does not show, teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claim 6.

Claim 8 claims a clamping arrangement for a knife of a disc chipper comprising a knife disc, a wear plate, a knife, a clamp and a compressing means. The wear plate is fastened on the knife side of the disc. The compressing means exerts a force substantially parallel to the axis of the disc outward from the disc onto the clamp. The knife abuts against a bracket of the clamp and the wear plate is provided with a matching groove for the bracket.

Through the structure of the claimed invention a) having a compressing means exerting a force outward from the disc onto the clamp, b) having a clamp have bracket and c) having the wear plate provided with a matching groove for the bracket as claimed in claim 8, the claimed invention provides a clamping arrangement in which no supporting surface is needed for the disc and the clamp can be used with other attaching methods than bolts. The prior art does not show, teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claim 8.

Claims 6-8 and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Applicant's prior art Figure 1, *Svensson* (U.S. Patent No. 4,155,384) or *Svensson* (U.S. Patent No. 4,047,670).

Figure 1 shows a generally used knife assembly. Knife 1 is attached in its place by pressing the knife by means of a knife clamp 2 against a wear plate 3. Bolts for attaching the wear plate to the knife disc 4 is not shown in the figure. The knife

clamp 2 is pressed in the direction of arrow N against the knife 1 by means of a bolt 5. Bolt 5 is supported from the knife disc 4 by means of a hardened threaded bushing 6. (Page 2, lines 12-16). Against the direction perpendicular to the pressing motion, the knife clamp is supported by means of the surface 14. The surface 14 is supported against the counter surface 15 in the knife disc and a friction force caused by the supporting force is generated between these surfaces. (Page 2, lines 27-30).

Thus, prior art Figure 1 merely discloses a knife clamp 2 and a wear plate 3. Nothing in prior art Figure 1 shows, teaches or suggests a clamp having a contact with the wear plate as claimed in claim 6. Rather, prior art Figure 1 teaches away from the claimed invention since no contact is provided between the clamp 2 and the wear plate 3.

Additionally, prior art Figure 1 merely discloses that the knife clamp 2 is supported by means of a surface 14 against the counter surface 15 in the knife disc 4. Thus, nothing in prior art Figure 1 shows, teaches or suggests a clamp having a bracket and a wear plate provided with a matching groove for the bracket as claimed in claim 8. Rather, prior art Figure 1 only discloses the knife clamp having a supporting surface 14 supported against counter surface 15 in the knife disc 4.

*Svensson '384* appears to disclose wood chipping machines of the disc type including a circular rotatable chipper disc drivably connected at its center to a drive shaft. (Column 1, lines 4-7). In the embodiment shown in FIG. 8, the knives 223 are of the indexable type and each knife is securely clamped between a clamping bar 93 and a chip guide 237 of substantially the same basic shape as the chip guide 37 illustrated in FIG. 3. The chip guide 237 is formed with ridges 249 shaped and arranged substantially in the same manner as described in conjunction with FIGS. 3

to 6. The chipper disc 219 shown is not provided with wear plates 31, but instead the chip guide 237 is formed with a hook-shaped rear edge 95 intended to support the clamping bar 93 against the chipping forces and sunk into the chipper disc 219 at the rear edge of each slot. A plurality of studs 97, one of which is shown, are screwed into the clamping bar 93 and extend through holes 96 formed in the wedge-shaped attachment portion 243 of the chip guide 237 and further through the disc 219 to the rear side thereof, where each stud is secured by means of a nut 98 and a washer 99. (Column 8, lines 14-32).

Thus, *Svensson* '384 merely discloses a knife 223 provided between a clamping bar 93 and a chip guide 237. Furthermore, *Svensson* '384 discloses at column 8, line 21-22 that no wear plate 31 is provided. Thus, nothing in *Svensson* '384 shows, teaches or suggests forcing a knife against a wear plate as claimed in claim 6. Rather, *Svensson* '384 teaches away from the claimed invention since no wear plate is provided and the knife 223 is clamped between the clamping bar 93 and the chip guide 237.

Additionally, *Svensson* '384 merely discloses that the knife 223 is held between the clamping bar 93 and chip guide 237 by stud 97. Applicants note that in order to clamp the knife 223 of *Svensson* '384 between the clamping bar 93 and the chip guide 237, the force on the clamping bar 93 would be in the direction toward the disc 219 (i.e., to clamp the knife, the bar 93 must be pulled inward toward the disc 219). Thus, nothing in *Svensson* '384 shows, teaches or suggests exerting a force outward from the disc as claimed in claims 6 and 8. Rather, in order to clamp the knife 223 between the clamping bar 93 and the chip guide 237, the force on stud 97 must be toward the disc 219. Applicants respectfully submit that if the force of the

stud is outward away from disc 219, clamping bar 93 would be pushed outward and the knife 223 of *Svensson* '384 would not be clamped in place but would be loose.

*Svensson* '670 appears to disclose in FIGS. 1 and 2 parts of a chopper disk 11 having wear plates 13 as well as openings 15 for the passage of chips. Knives 17 are clamped between the knife holder 19 and the chip guide 21. Each knife holder 19 is provided with one or more screw means 23 by means of which said holder can be brought to press the knife 17 against the chip guide 21. The outer surface of the screw means 23 and the knife holder 19 form a generally planar or flat surface. The chip guide 21 includes two extensions 25, 27 resting against the chopper disk 11. One extension 25 extends through the opening 15 and rests against the wall 11' of the chopper disk 11 adjacent the outlet or discharge of said opening 15. The other extension 27 on the chip guide 21 is essentially perpendicular to the first extension 25 and rests against the plane of the chopper disk 11 at the input side along the rear edge of the opening 15, as seen in the rotational direction of the chopper disk 11. (Column 2, lines 46-64).

Thus, *Svensson* '670 merely discloses a knife 17 provided between a chip guide 21 and a knife holder 19. Nothing in *Svensson* '670 shows, teaches or suggests forcing a knife against a wear plate as claimed in claim 6. Rather, *Svensson* '670 only discloses that the knife 17 is clamped between the knife holder 19 and the chip guide 21. (Knife 17 is not forced against wear plate 13).

Additionally, *Svensson* '670 merely discloses a screw means 23 which causes the knife holder 19 to clamp the knife 17 to the chip guide 21. In order for the knife holder 19 to clamp the knife 17, the screw means 23 must force the knife holder 19 toward the chip guide 21 and hence toward the chopper disc 11. Therefore,

*Svensson '670* merely discloses that the force exerted on the knife 17 is inward toward the disc 11. However, as claimed in claims 6 and 8, the force exerted on the knife is outward from the disc. Therefore, *Svensson '670* teaches away from the claimed invention since the screw means 23 will force the knife holder 19 toward the chip guide 21 in order to clamp the knife 17 and thus the force on the knife 17 is inward toward the disc and not outward from the disc.

Since nothing in Applicant's admitted prior art Figure 1, *Svensson '384* or *Svensson '670* show, teach or suggest the primary features as claimed in claims 6 and 8 as discussed above, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claims 7 and 10-12 recite additional features. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7 and 10-12 would not have been anticipated by Applicant's admitted prior art Figure 1, *Svensson '384* or *Svensson '670* at least for the reasons as set forth above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 7 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time.

The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

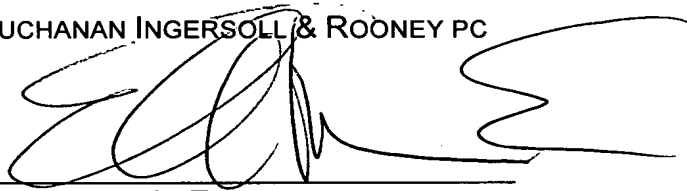
In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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